

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-19 are subject to a species election requirement. Claim 2-11 have been canceled without prejudice to Applicant's right to pursue any canceled subject matter in other applications.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a generic claim that encompasses all of the groups of species set forth by the Examiner in the Election Requirement of June 16, 2003. Claims 12-19 have been amended to depend from independent Claim 1.

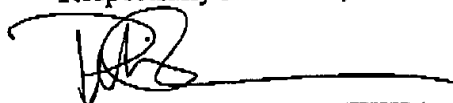
**THE SPECIES ELECTION REQUIREMENT**

The Examiner asserts that restriction to one of the ten inventions, which are set forth in the June 16, 2003 Election Requirement, is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121. In particular, the Examiner alleges that the application contains claims directed to ten patently distinct species.

Applicant respectfully traverses and, as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.143, indicates a provisional election of one invention for prosecution, hereby electing Group I, *i.e.*, Claims 1 and 2-19 as amended which are readable on Groups I-X. The restriction requirement did not indicate which of the original claims (*i.e.*, Claims 1-19) were allegedly readable upon each of Groups I-X, which does not appear to clearly identify each of the disclosed species to which claims are restricted. *See* M.P.E.P. § 809.02(a). Moreover, a search and examination of the entire scope of the originally filed claims, which are intimately related, would not necessarily impose a serious burden on the Examiner. *See* M.P.E.P. § 803. Nevertheless, Applicant respectfully asserts that the claims, as amended, are readable on all of the groups (*i.e.*, Groups I-X).

Accordingly, in light of the claim amendments and remarks herein, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.143, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for a species election. Applicant hereby preserves the right of petition from requirement for restriction under 37 C.F.R. § 1.144.

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: July 16, 2003

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